

REMARKS

Re-examination and allowance of the present application is respectfully requested.

Initially, Applicants thank the Examiner for indicating the allowability of claims 17, 20, 23 and 26.

Applicants additionally thank the Examiner for indicating that claims 19, 22, 25 and 28 contain allowable subject matter, and that these claims would be allowable if they are amended to be placed into independent form. By the current amendment, Applicants amend independent claims 18, 21, 24 and 27 to include the subject matter of objected claims 19, 22, 25 and 28, respectively. Thus, Applicants cancel claims 19, 22, 25 and 28. In view of the current amendment, Applicants submit that claims 18, 21, 24 and 27 are in condition for allowance, and respectfully request such an indication from the Examiner.

Claims 14-16 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §101 as being directed to non-statutory subject matter. While Applicants respectfully traverse this ground of rejection, Applicants have amended claims 14 and 15 to clarify that the data storage medium is read by a computer. In view of the current amendments, Applicants submit that claims 14 and 15 are directed to statutory subject matter, and respectfully request withdrawal of the 35 U.S.C. §101 rejection.

Applicants also amend claim 15 to include the subject matter of claim 16, which corresponds to the subject matter of, for example, objected claims 19, and 21. Accordingly, Applicants submit that claim 15 is also in condition for allowance, and respectfully requests such an indication from the Examiner.

Further, Applicants note that no prior art rejection was set forth against claim 14. Accordingly, Applicants believe that claim 14 is allowable over the art of record, and respectfully requests such an indication from the Examiner.

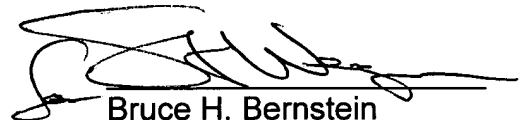
SUMMARY AND CONCLUSION

In view of the fact that none of the art of record, whether considered alone or in combination, discloses or suggests the present invention as now defined by the pending claims, and in further view of the above amendments and remarks, reconsideration of the Examiner's action and allowance of the present application are respectfully requested and are believed to be appropriate.

Should the Commissioner determine that an extension of time is required in order to render this response timely and/or complete, a formal request for an extension of time, under 37 C.F.R. §1.136(a), is herewith made in an amount equal to the time period required to render this response timely and/or complete. The Commissioner is authorized to charge any required extension of time fee under 37 C.F.R. §1.17 to Deposit Account No. 19-0089.

If there should be any questions concerning this application, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below.

Respectfully submitted,
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